

H. Rector (P.) Pres THE

NAKED TRUTH;

OR,

Lucas and La Touche

Set forth in their

PROPER COLOURS.



DUBLIN:

Printed in the Year, M,DCC,XLIX.

(Price one Penny.)

Oct. 10

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S I R,

SINCE my Return into this Kingdom, I found that the Affairs of the ensuing Election in the City of Dublin engaged the Conversation of all Companies I went into. I heard various Debates and Opinions concerning the Merits of the Candidates, and observed both from private and publick Transactions, that one of them was taken Notice of with a kind of Admiration by all Parties. The Reason of some Peoples wonder was (as its natural to suppose) that a Tradesman not remarkable for Riches nor distinguished from his Brethren by any high Station or honourable Title, should presume, contrary to Custom, to sue for a Seat in Parliament, without any of those Adventitions to support his Pretensions.

The Attention of the Publick is commonly raised when Things happen thus out of the common Road. Whoever attempts any great Undertaking, invents any new, or revives a neglected Art, seldom fails to draw over several

veral to his Party, who become passionately pleased with the novelty or greatness of his design, while he exposeth himself to the envy of others, who shew themselves as eager to diminish his Fame as they are mortified with the Thoughts of being exceeded, or exasperated at the Apprehension of suffering in any Part of their private Interest.

Such is the Case of this Candidate. Some extol him as an Hero, a disinterested Patriot, a strenuous assertor of Liberty. Others again represent him as the Ringleader of a Faction, a pestilent Fellow, a mover of Sedition, an impudent Detracter, a Traitor to his King and Country.

These so widely differing Sentiments are enough to raise any ones Curiosity, as they did mine, to know more of this extraordinary Phenomenon; which I can compare to nothing so well as to a Comet in the Heavens, which affords Pleasure to some in observing the Traces of a regular Course, and conjecturing what good Influences it may shed upon our System, while it affects others with Horror, who look upon it as a prodigy portending direful Calamities to the Nation that beholds it.

I embraced the first Opportunity I could get of hearing him and another Candidate, Mr. Diggs La Touche, address one of the Corporations. Since which Time I waited for a leisure Hour to communicate my Thoughts to you upon the Occasion. And as I am independent of the contending Parties, having nothing

thing to hope or to fear from either, I shall now take the Liberty to deliver my Sentiments in as dispassionate a Manner as I made my private Observations.

Mr. Lucas was the first that spoke. Altho' there was a numerous Assembly composed of Men of various Capacities, some it is to be thought competent Judges of the Facts he stated, and some of his Manner, yet he appeared quite serene and expressed himself with an Air of honest Boldness and undaunted Resolution. Altho' his Speech was protracted to a considerable Length, yet he retained the Attention of the Audience to the End, inasmuch that Pleasure diffused itself over the generality of Countenances, and frequently broke out into open Applause. His Manner of insinuating himself into the Minds of his Hearers was modest and rational, his Way of Reasoning cool and deliberate, his Attacks upon the Passions animated with Life and Fire, and his Language elegant and copious. His Words flowed sweet as the Honey of the Hybla Bees, which brought to Mind Homer's Description of the agreeable speaking Nestor, and his Comparifon of Ulysses's Words, to the gentle Descent of falling Flakes of Snow.

*Experienc'd Nestor in persuasion still,
Words sweet as Honey, from his Lips distill'd.
Pope's Hom. Book i. l. 394.
But when he speaks, Elocution flows!
Soft as the Fleeces of descending Snows,
The copious Accent fall, with easy Art,
Melting they fall, and sink into the Heart.*

*Wond'ring we hear, and fixed in deep Surprise,
Our Ears refute the Censure of our Eyes.*

Pope's Hom. Book 3. l. 283.

In short, he hath all the knacks of the Orator, and seems capable of working upon the various Affections of his Audience, as *Timotheus* the Musician is said to have moved *Alexander* to Love or Arms by the Modulations of his Lyre. His Aim was to give the Citizens a Sense of certain Grievances and Oppressions, in order to dispose them not to Mutiny and Rage, but to the careful Choice of Faithful, vigilant, and active Representatives. He used indeed some very severe Expressions in the more elevated Parts of his Oration. These, however, he grounded upon Facts; which, if he can maintain for true ones, perhaps those Expressions are but too justly deserved by the Persons against whom they are pointed. If some People think their Station gives them a Privilege to do wrong, People in a lower Sphere are often apt to think they have a Right to tell it. Besides, a good deal of Indulgence should be given to popular Orators, who generally take bolder Flights, in painting a Calamity or exposing an Adversary, than are used in common Conversation. They have frequently no other Way of reaching some Capacities, or rousing some Tempers to Action, than by Means of something of a very striking Nature; as hath been practised by the ancient Models he imitates, who used greater plainness and freedom of Speech than are now a-days in Fashion. It hath been always indeed
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in free States, and I congratulate my Country as one of that Number, in which a private Citizen hath been permitted to expose what he conceived to be the Abuses of Power, with impunity.

It must however be acknowledged that he speaks like one severely touched by Affliction, with great Warmth and openness upon that nice Subject the Dependance of the Irish Parliament upon the British. So that he is charged by his Adversaries with creating a needless discontent in the Minds of the People, with having done as imprudent, as inhumane an Action as hushing Birds about an Aviary, under Pretence of delivering them. In the Nature of things, to be sure, we have as good a Title to Freedom as any Nation upon Earth, i. e. that is to be governed by Laws framed by our own Representatives; and by solemn Consent the King of England is ours, Perhaps thro' oversight, or it may be the Necessity of our Affairs, a Share of our Priviledges as a Kingdom in this Sense, independant, hath slipped out of our Hands. And tho' we may feel some hardships in consequence of the Power which the British Parliament hath obtained over us, in some Instances, yet it is beneficially applied in others. Consequently we should guard our Rights, or demand what we have a Claim to from our Benefactors with good Humour, and avoid giving Offence to a People that can do us incredible Damage, only by withdrawing their Favours. But within those Limits it is the confessed Duty of every Member, and of Mr. Lucas in particular,

cular, be his Station what it will, to contend for the Rights of the Community. For if it be even allowed that by Reason of our weakness we are become dependant for the Sake of Protection against the Assaults of foreign or domestick Enemies, as the Members of a single State lodge Power in the Hands of a few for their mutual Security, still there is a certain Ballance of Power which we should carefully maintain, just as the popular Part of a Constitution keeps Means to preserve itself from sinking under the Growth of Prerogative.

Now if with this it should be granted that his Zeal hath carried him too far, yet it is a Zeal for Liberty and therefore ought to be tenderly treated. One would be apt to imagine that the Orator had gotten a View of that bright Goddess during some of his Lucubrations, such a View as *Horace* pretends to have had of *Bacchus* instructing the Nymphs and Satyrs, whereby he was as it were raised out of him-self, and was actuated afterwards by the strong Impressions it left upon his Soul.

The Request he makes of the Citizens can't be too much revered. 'Tis for them to be Free, to judge for themselves, to lay aside the Influences of Passion and sordid Interest, and to act in such a Manner as they can account for upon reasonable Principles. Can any thing be fairer? The Design is certainly excellent, and if he should commit some Mistakes in the Prosecution of it, remember, that to err is human. It is cruel to brand him as a Traitor, tho' he or some of his Friends may have said Things

Things that might give an handle to the Enemies of our Country, if any such there be, of consequence enough in *England* to move one of the wisest and best Counsels on Earth, to decree any thing to our, in Fact, their own, disadvantage; for so close is the Connection, that their Interest will always strengthen with our Prosperity. Great and wise Men have often differed about Matters of equal Consequence, and if the erroneous Side, was always to be attained (as some would serve him) upon account of the bad Effects which the opposite conceives would follow if the mistaken Scheme were to be put into execution, what a Multitude of prescriptions would terrify the Nation every Turn! Then farewell Freedom of Inquiry, farewell publick Spirit, farewell Liberty. But stay fair Form, part not thus abruptly out of View, there are still, to be hoped Men of Candor and common Charity, who are inclined to put the best, and not the worst, Construction upon things; Men who will allow their Brethren to express their Sentiments, provided not contrary to the Laws, in Safety. Could one think any would make such severe Returns to a Man for his well intended Labours, as have been made to Mr. *Lucas*. But it is not improbable that after some Generations, when private Resentments are forgotten, and Factions find other Employment, the Man who is now pointed at by several as ripe for Destruction, will be had in grateful Remembrance, as one who laboured in the Cause of Truth and Justice, and asserted the Rights, Liberties, and Priviledges, of

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his Fellow-Citizens, in the Use of legal Methods and upon legal Principles.

So fared it once in some Respect, with the great *Socrates*. A Clamour was raised against him for opposing the Superstition of his Country. He was tried; he was put to Death. But behold when the Mist of Prejudice was blown over, when Men came to think calmly of his real Character, his Memory was held in the highest Esteem. Here indeed the City of Dublin exceeds the City of Athens, for there are now many free and reputable Tradesmen, whom I shan't presume as others have done, to call a Mob, who cheerfully render unto their Brother the Praises due to his Labours and Endowments.

Let them but go one Step farther, let them entrust him to represent them in Parliament, and then he will have it in his Power to shew that their Favours are not ill bestowed, that their Rewards are not ill placed. The Thoughts of being chosen by unbiassed Electors will inspire him with fresh Ardour: That great Honour will in some Sense enable him to wipe off the Disgrace of his being only a private Citizen—an Apothecary. A Man who thus acquires Dignity in consequence of his own Labours, must have his Head filled with great Undertakings, and his Heart warmed with grateful Dispositions to serve his honest, generous Constituents. His Eloquence will shine with a new Lustre, and our Senators think it not beneath them to hang upon his Tongue. If the City should have
any

any Advantage to sue for, he can represent them in an agreeable Manner. If any Grievances to complain of, he can move boldly and expressively for Redress. If it be objected that his abstract Notions of Liberty may carry him too far; why, he is not to govern but to plead with the House, and give his single Voice. And should he happen to be mistaken, as all Men are sometimes; there will enough be found in that August Assembly both able and willing to convince him by Reason. So that you have little to fear, but a great deal to hope for from his being elected; and I would appeal to any one, if it be not much safer for People in our Circumstances, who some how or other are become dependent, but still possessed of a valuable Stake, to choose a Representative apt to run into the extreme his opposites have charged him with, than one of too inactive a Temper.

But to return, Mr. Diggs, who spoke next and last (for it seems no other Candidate chose any longer to submit to that kind of Trial) pleased no less with his nervous Manner of Expression, than the other with his studied Eloquence. For altho' his Oration was not decked with so many Turns of Rhetorick and Humour, nor flowed with the same soothing kind of softness, yet there was something in it that struck the Mind with a kind of Awe, something that engaged the thoughtful, something that signified a particular Energy of Soul in the Speaker. Along with all imaginable deference to his Audience; he discovered that agreeable Confidence that conscious Merit can't readily conceal,

conceal. Tho' he preferred his Suit with Humility, yet he seemed to claim the high Station to be disposed of as the just Recompence of his past Services, while he offered convincing Arguments to prove it the Interest of the Electors to reject those who detain their Privileges, however worthy in their private Capacities, and to make choice of Men who are disengaged from the Influence of such Persons. As he confined himself chiefly to the Affairs of the City, which the Freemen are to be supposed immediately acquainted with, So the Appeal lies to themselves if they dont think by his Judicious and impartial Management of them, that he hath acquitted himself as a fit Person to fill one of the vacant Seats?

Indeed it was hard for any that know his Circumstances and Conduct, to hear without admiring and esteeming him, for it is well known that by his Situation in Life, from his first setting out, he stood as fair as any Man for City Preferment, could he have complied against his Judgment with the Maxims of those already in Authority. 'Tis well known that he is allied to some of the Aldermen in Affinity, that several of them are his Friends and Acquaintances, and altho his Behaviour in private Life proves that he is sensible of the delicate Feelings connected with those social Ties, yet apprehending that the Worshipful Board had assumed a Dominion that did not belong to them, and that the Community was aggrieved, he generously subordinated his private Views to a Zeal for its Welfare: He set about bringing the Rights and

and Priviledges of the Commons to Light—he persisted in the laudable Design; his Heart glowed with a Love of his Fellow-Citizens, and his Resolution was not to be shaken, by those Things that foil Men of too yielding tho' perhaps well meaning Dispositions.—Attacks made upon the tenderest Affections in human Nature could not divert him from his great Undertaking, which shews that he is not to be influenced. The Prospect of Power or a Title did not corrupt him, therefore he is not ambitious; he is possessed of a plentiful Fortune, therefore it is to be presumed above being bribed. Trade is his Profession; he is therefore qualified for representing a trading City, as he hath made it his Study, he must know what will improve or hurt it; as his Fortune is concerned, he must have its Interest at heart. And that he is strongly attached to the Cause of Liberty, his whole Conduct demonstrates. But if he never had met with an Opportunity of giving any publick Proof of this his Attachment, what else could we expect from one descended from and educated by a Man who had felt the Rage of French Tyranny, left a good Patrimony for Conscience Sake, fought under the Banner of the late glorious King William, and afterwards prospered so long under the Protection of our mild and excellent Form of Government? What other Principles could such a Parent instil into his Son, than an Horror of Slavery and a Love of Freedom, which as they were impressed upon his infant Soul, and grown up with him, can never be erased. And
now

now. I have mentioned that late worthy Citizen Mr. *David Diggs La Touche*, who expired upon his Knees in the Castle Chappel, I can't pass him over without putting you in Mind, that he joined to unaffected Piety and extensive Charity, an affectionate Regard to this which he made his own Country, and expressed his Love in the most sensible Manner, by promoting the Manufactures and encouraging the Manufacturers of it. Is it not therefore a Tribute justly due to the Memory of so valuable a Man, for the Citizens now they have it in their Power, to shew a distinguished Regard to his Son, especially as he is himself furnished with so many natural, civil, and moral Endowments to qualify him for their Favour?—Let them shew they value Merit and are disposed to reward it from Generation to Generation. I am sure no less is to be expected from a collective Body of Men remarkable for honesty and generosity.

They have shewed themselves Men upon the present Occasion. It is a Doubt, whether most to applaud the Candidates for addressing them publickly, or them for encouraging it. 'Tis the proper way to engage the Interest of Freemen, at least its to be preferred to the Applications that before now have been made to the Necessities and Appetites of the indigent. It is the readiest Method for the generality to form a Judgment by, of the Capacities and Qualities of the Candidates, especially those necessary ones Knowledge, Address and Integrity.

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'Tis perhaps as fortunate a Method as ever was hit upon for raising a Spirit of Oratory in this Kingdom. The Applauses of a free Audience give Life to a free Speaker; and it is a common Observation that Eloquence generally improves or languishes in Proportion to the State of Liberty in it, or the Opportunities there are of reaping Advantages by Addresses to the Publick. If these two Candidates for instance be elected, it must be attended with pleasing Consequences in this very Respect. When our Youth observe how the most honourable Stations can be acquired by Merit, they will take the Hint, and study the ingenious Arts with double Vigour. What forbids then but Dublin may ere long become famous among the Cities of Europe for Eloquence and publick Spirit? Each Person will vie with his Neighbour in the cultivation of civil Virtues; when Freemen called from private Capacities to the most publick and important Trust, by the uninfluenced Voice of his Fellow Citizens, and the powerful will be deterred from Oppression, when they find themselves passed by upon Account of it.

Those Things concern every Elector more or less, and from the sincere Love I bear to them all, I could wish them to consider, of what Moment it is, how much for the Honour and Interest of the City, to have Representatives that can transact their Affairs as well, and appear as reputable in the House, as the Representatives of the smallest Burroughs, and Men that are both able and willing

ling to serve them. Let them consider in Time what Effects their present Behaviour may have, not only upon their own Affairs, but upon their Children after them, how it may tend either to make them great and free, or expose them to Oppression and evil Treatment. Let them consider their Vote as due even in Point of Justice to Men who have laboured for Years in the Service. Let them place themselves in their Circumstances, and consider how they themselves must be affected if after having toiled Day and Night, risked Health, denied themselves the innocent Pleasures of Life, and struggled against the Sollicitations, of strong and tender Affections, and after all their past Services should be slighted, and their Persons and Reputations left exposed to the Malice of their common Oppressors.

One Thing I must earnestly recommend to you, and would, had I Opportunity, to every Elector.—Before you act, ask yourself this Question. Is it out of hope or fear, out of Favour or Affection, or a View of rewarding the meritorious, and serving the publick, you intend to give your Vote? Never determine till you can satisfy your self with a reasonable Answer. Which when done, you may possibly act a mistaken, but certainly an honest Part.

I am, &c.

Oct. 10. 1749.

PHILO RHECTOR

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